GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:162
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016
National Highway Projects
Chaudhury Shri Jitendra

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for award of contracts for the construction of the National Highways (NHs)for the Financial years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 and the present status thereof;

(b) the funds mobilised and allocated for the purpose so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and other Government agencies for the Construction of NHs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 162 ANSWERED ON 28.07.2016 ASKED BY SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY REGARDING NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS.

(a) The Ministry has fixed a target for award of road projects of 25,000 km length during the current financial year 2016-17 which are envisaged to have tentative completion periods ranging from 24 months to 36 months. Road projects in total length of about 1,378 km have been awarded during 2016-17 till June, 2016.

(b) The Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the Central Sector Roads for 2016-17 (BE) is Rs 43,807 Crore. Apart from this, NHAI (National Highway Authority of India) has been authorized to raise Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR)/Borrowings of Rs 59279 Crore during 2016-17.

(c) Regular meetings are held with project developers, State Governments and contractors in Head Quarter by Ministry with Regional Officers, concessionaires /contractors to make the construction of projects hassle free. To expedite completion of these projects various steps have been taken which include streamlining of land acquisition & environment clearances, exit for equity investors, premium re-schedulement, close coordination with other Ministries, revamping of dispute resolution mechanism, frequent reviews at various levels etc. Further, The Government has taken major initiatives towards expediting implementation of languishing projects. The various measures taken include :

Environment and Forest Clearance −

â€¢ Delegation of powers to Regional Offices by Ministry of Environment and Forest.
â€¢ EC (Environment Clearance) not required for length of 100 km. Even beyond 100 Km, EC is not required if widening is restricted to 40m and realignment to 60m.

ROBs(Rail Over Bridge) / RUBs(Rail Under Bridge):
The procedure for GAD (General Arrangement Drawing) approved by Railways for ROBs has been simplified and made online. Maintenance charges which were hampering the progress of many projects, stand waived by Railways. Standard design have been put on website.

Financial initiatives

â€¢ Loan secured to the extent of termination payment.
â€¢ Infrastructure debt fund − Long term financing at low interest rates
â€¢ Reschedulement of premium − Bank Rate+2%.
â€¢ 100% exit after 2 years of completion in projects awarded before 2009.
â€¢ Fund infusion by NHAI in stalled projects where the physical progress is 50% and the concessionaire is facing shortage of funds.
â€¢ NHAI liberally permitting refinance with elongation of repayment period. RBI (Reserve Bank of India) has also issued circular for providing long term debt finance matching the concession period without classifying the exposure as restructured.

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